(*b*) how many were appointed as Forest Guards since they were thrown out;

(*c*) how many from the thrown-outs and how many from outside;

(*d*) what was the cause of taking an outsider when there are thrown-outs?

Mr. T. Narayana Menon *(Conservator of Forests):*

(*a*) 19.

(*b*) 18.

(*c*) One from the thrown-out and seventeen from outside.

(*d*) 15 were trained hands and they were for that reason given preference over the thrown-out hands. The other two were preferred on the communal rotation principle of the Staff Selection Board.

NURSES IN STATE HOSPITALS—SANCTION TO MARRY

367. Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* Will Government be pleased to state.—

(*a*) how many nurses are employed in the Government Hospitals and dispensaries of the State;

(*b*) whether they are allowed to marry and continue in service in the hospitals and dispensaries;

(*c*) if they are not whether Government will be pleased to amend the rules in this matter so as to allow the nurses to marry without giving up their posts; and

(*d*) what is the rule in this point in the hospitals of the Madras Province?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):*

(*a*) 121 staff nurses including 8 Indian Nursing sisters but excluding 7 Italian sisters.

(*b*) They are not allowed to marry and continue in service but nurses already married before the introduction of the rule are allowed to continue in service.

(*c*) Government do not think it necessary to amend the rules.

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(*d*) In the Madras Presidency pupil nurses are not permitted to marry during the period of their training and one who does so will be deemed to have left the training school without notice and she will be required to refund the stipend received by her during the last three months prior to the date of such marriage.

Staff nurses are permitted to marry and continue in the service of the Government with the approval of the Surgeon-General subject to the condition that the nurse concerned produces a declaration from her husband that he has no objection to her remaining in Government service and that he will not frequently visit the Nurses' Quarters if and when she has to live in the common quarters provided for the nursing staff.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* With regard to item (*b*) may I know, Sir, when this rule that nurses cannot marry was introduced?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* 8 years ago.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* May I know what are the reasons which made the Government now think it necessary not to amend the rules?

Mr. President: Because the existing system has been working very satisfactorily *(Laughter).*

Mr. C. V. Iyyu *(Kunnamkulam):* With reference to the last portion of the answer, *i.e.*, the declaration demanded from the husband that he will not frequently visit the nurses' quarters, can he at times visit? *(Laughter)*

Mr. A. B. Salem *(Mattancheri):* May I know why this disqualification of marriage imposed only on women and not on men?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* Only in the case of women we think that this is necessary.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* Why was the rule changed in 1108? May I know the reasons that induced the Government to change the then existing rule?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* It was changed then because it was found that the whole system was not working satisfactorily, and, as a matter of fact, nursing profession is not compatible with married life. As you know the primary duty of a

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married woman will be towards her husband and children. But in the case of a nurse she should devote all her time and attention to patients entrusted to her care.

Mr. L. M. Pylee *(Latin-Christians-Ernakulam):* May I know whether, in British India, they found it to be compatible there?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* I do not exactly know what they do in Madras. But my information is that the Surgeon-General does not ordinarily encourage nurses to marry, so much so in the Madras General Hospital there is hardly a nurse who is married. They are not at all encouraged to do so.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Are not women teachers allowed to marry?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* Yes.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* Do the husbands of married women teachers visit the schools often?

Rao Sahib I. N. Menon *(Director of Public Instruction):* I have no information.

Mr. T. S. Ramachandra Ayyar *(Chittur-Tattamangalam):* May I know the rational basis of the rule in this matter?

Mr. President: They can treat others' children and sons; but husbands they can't *(Laughter).*

Mr. V. K. Bhaskara Menon *(Cranganur):* Does the same system exist in Europe?

Dr. T. Verghese *(Chief Medical Officer):* No nurse is allowed to marry there.

THOTTIPPAL—KARUVANNUR ROAD

368. Mr. Puthur Achyuta Menon *(Kattur):* (*a*) Will Government be pleased to inform this House whether there were not repeated requests from the people of Thottippal for a road from Thottippal to Karuvannur;

(*b*) if the answer is in the affirmative, will Government be pleased to state what was the reply to the requests?

Mr. V. K. Aravindaksha Menon *(Chief Engineer):*

(*a*) There were requests for improving the Kurumali bund from the Chalakkudi road to Thottippal.

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